GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3757
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2016
Smuggling of Idols and Sculptures
Chautala Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of idols and traditional sculptures that have been smuggled to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the total number of registered cases of smuggling of ancient sculptures and idols; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to check such smugglings?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)
(a) to (b) : No such data is maintained centrally . However, State/UT wise cases reported, cases chargesheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, persons chargesheeted and persons convicted under the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 during 2012-2014 is enclosed at Annexure.
(c): In order to ensure the security and protection of the ancient sculptures, idols and artifacts, watch and ward staff have been deployed at Centrally protected monuments & archaeological sites. The security has been further supplemented by engagement of private security guards and the State police.